CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A system for managing newly accessible media content on a communication network, comprising:

a display communicatively coupled to at least one communication device, the communication device being in at least one of a "standby" mode and an "off" mode;

a communication network communicatively coupled to the at least one communication device; and

media content disposed in at least one of the communication network and the at least one communication device, the at least communication device adapted to detect the media content that is newly accessible to the at least one communication device and to provide indications relating to the detection of the newly available media content, the indications being provided on at least one of the display and the at least one communication device.

2. The system according to claim 1, wherein the communication network comprises at least one of a third party media server, a media exchange server, a third party media provider, a third party service provider, a media storage server, a broadband access headend, a broadcast channel provider, a cable infrastructure, a satellite network infrastructure, a digital subscriber line (DSL) infrastructure, an Internet infrastructure, an intranet infrastructure, a wired infrastructure, a closed communication infrastructure, a local area network, and a wireless infrastructure.

3. The system according to claim 1, wherein the communication network comprises an Internet.

4. The system according to claim 1, wherein the at least one communication device comprises at least one of a computer, a storage device, a media peripheral, set-top box circuitry, a television, a text display, a keyboard, a computer mouse, a remote control, an internal speaker, an intercom system, an infrared transmitter, light emitting diodes (LED's), and a stereo system.

5. The system according to claim 1, wherein the display is at least one of a CRT-based television, a high definition TV (HDTV), a plasma display system, and a projection television.

6. The system according to claim 1, wherein the media content comprises at least one of third party media content, user-created media content, digital video, digital images, digital audio, documents, files, non-broadcast media content, broadcast television programs, radio channels, news programming, sporting events programming, special programming, and on-demand movies.

7. The system according to claim 6, wherein the media content comprises non-broadcast information.

8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the indications relating to the detection of the newly available media content comprise at least one of display pop-up window notification, and display ghost overlay notification.

9. The system according to claim 8, wherein the display is in a "standby" mode.

10. The system according to claim 1, wherein the indications relating to the detection of the newly available media content comprise at least one of text display announcement, activating LED's, and an audible announcement.

11. The system according to claim 10, wherein the display is in an "off" mode.

12. A system for managing newly accessible media content on a communication network, comprising:

at least one processor disposed in a communication device, the communication device being in a "standby" mode and communicatively coupled to a communication network, the at least one processor detecting newly accessible media content on the communication network and providing indications relating to the detection of newly available media content.

13. The system according to claim 12, wherein the communication device comprises at least one of a computer, a storage device, a media peripheral, set-top box circuitry, a television, a text display, a keyboard, a computer mouse, a remote control, an internal speaker, an intercom system, an infrared transmitter, light emitting diodes (LED's), and a stereo system.

14. The system according to claim 12, wherein the indications relating to the detection of the newly available media content comprise at least one of display pop-up window notification, display ghost overlay notification, text display announcement, activating LED's, and an audible announcement.

15. A method for managing newly accessible media content on a communication network, comprising:

(a) detecting newly available media content by a communication device in at least one of a "standby" mode and an "off" mode, the communication device communicatively coupled to a communication network; and

(b) generating at least one indication relating to the detection of newly available media content.

16. The method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one indication is in at least one of a text format, a graphic format, and an audio format.

17. The method according to claim 15, wherein the at least one indication relating to the detection of the newly available media content comprise at least one of display pop-up window notification, display ghost overlay notification, text display announcement, activating LED's, and an audible announcement.

18. The method according to claim 15, further comprising:

(c) displaying the constructed at least one indication on the communication device, the communication device being in a "standby" mode.

19. A method for managing newly accessible media content on a communication network, comprising:

(a) detecting newly accessible media content by a communication device, the communication device communicatively coupled to a communication network;

(b) displaying a notice relating to the availability of the newly accessible media content on a text display, the text display communicatively coupled to the communication device;

(c) activating at least one of an integrated television and an external television; and

(d) displaying a graphic notice for the availability of the newly accessible media content on at least one of the integrated television and the external television.

20. The method according to claim 19, wherein at least one of the integrated television and the external television is in a "standby" mode.

21. The method according to claim 19, further comprising:

(e) generating an audible alert signal for the availability of the newly accessible media content.

22. The method according to claim 21, wherein at least one of the integrated television and the external television is in an "off" mode.